AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of inactivating a virus, said method comprising contacting said virus with a virucidally effective amount of a composition consisting of:

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; ~~and a synergistic combination, said synergistic combination consisting of~~

a C1, a C2, or a C3 straight chain alcohol or a C2, C3, or C4 diol having a concentration of 0.2 to 13.0% by volume in water; and

a sufficient amount of an acid to adjust the pH of the ~~synergistic combination to between~~ composition to a range from 2.45 and to 4.6, wherein said acid is an organic acid selected from the group consisting of glycolic acid, lactic acid, succinic acid, malic acid, citric acid and acetic acid, or an inorganic acid;

wherein the combination of alcohol or diol and acid is synergistic providing greater virucidal activity than the alcohol used alone.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, 1-propanol, and 2-propanol.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of 2,3-butanediol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, and 1,4-butanediol.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein said alcohol is ethanol.

Claims 5-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said acid is an inorganic acid.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein said acid is hydrochloric acid.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of said ~~synergistic combination~~ composition is 2.45.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus resides in the dermis or epidermis of a human or animal infected by said virus.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said composition is applied topically to reduce or inhibit lesions in an animal or human suffering from an infection by said virus.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is a member of the Herpesviridae family.

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 13, wherein said virus is herpes simplex 1.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 13, wherein said virus is herpes simplex 2.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is Varicella-zoster virus.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is a member of the Poxviridae family.

Claim 18. The method of claim 17, wherein said virus is molluscum contagiosum.

Claim 19 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is selected from the group consisting of rhinoviruses, adenoviruses, enteroviruses, cornoviruses, respiratory syncytial viruses, influenza viruses and parainfluenza viruses.

Claim 20 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said composition is a preparation selected from the group consisting of a tincture, gel, ointment, cream, salve, lotion, lip balm, foam, spray and aerosol.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A method of inactivating a virus, said method comprising contacting said virus with a virucidally effective amount of a composition consisting of:

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; ~~and a synergistic combination, said combination consisting of~~

an alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 2,3-butanediol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, and 1,4-butanediol having a concentration of 0.2 to 13.0% by volume in water; ~~,~~ and

a sufficient amount of an acid to adjust the pH of the ~~synergistic combination~~ composition to a pH of from ~~to between~~ 2.45 ~~and~~ to 4.6, wherein said acid is selected from the group consisting of glycolic acid, lactic acid, succinic acid, malic acid, citric acid, acetic acid, and hydrochloric acid.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The method of claim 21, wherein the pH of said ~~synergistic~~ composition is 2.45.

Claim 23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said composition is applied topically to reduce or inhibit lesions in an animal or human suffering from an infection by said virus.

Claim 25 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said virus resides in the dermis or epidermis of a human or animal infected by said virus.

Claim 26 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said virus is a member of the Herpesviridae family.

Claim 27 (Original): The method of claim 26, wherein said virus is herpes simplex 1.

Claim 28 (Original): The method of claim 26, wherein said virus is herpes simplex 2.

Claim 29 (Original): The method of claim 26, wherein said virus is Varicella-zoster virus.

Claim 30 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said virus is a member of the Poxviridae family.

Claim 31 (Original): The method of claim 30, wherein said virus is molluscum contagiosum.

Claim 32 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said virus is selected from the group consisting of rhinoviruses, adenoviruses, enteroviruses, cornoviruses, respiratory syncytial viruses, influenza viruses and parainfluenza viruses.

Claim 33 (Original): The method of claim 21, wherein said composition is a topical preparation selected from the group consisting of a tincture, gel, ointment, cream, salve, lotion, lip balm, foam, spray and aerosol.